

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. 1. A system for displaying graphical information, comprising:

3 a display driver for making graphical information visible to a user;

4 data organized along at least one axis in a hierarchical manner; and

5 a graphing system connected to the data and to the display driver for

6 displaying at least one axis of data, in a graph having at least two dimensions, as

7 aggregated data in accordance with a selected level within the hierarchy.

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- 1 2. A method for displaying data, comprising the steps of:
- 2 displaying a graph having at least two dimensions;
- 3 organizing at least one axis of the display in a hierarchical manner, so that
- 4 data displayed along such at least one axis is selectably aggregated to be
- 5 displayed.

- 1 3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising the step of:
- 2 allowing a user to select a level of the axis to be displayed, wherein the
- 3 selectable aggregation level displayed is that chosen by the user.

- 1 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein, in response to the user changing the
- 2 aggregation level, a different aggregation level is displayed.

- 1 5. The method of Claim 2, wherein the graph includes data organized in a
- 2 hierarchy along two axes of the display.

- 1 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the display is a 3-dimensional graphical
- 2 display of data.

1 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein, in response to a user selection, a portion
2 of a dimension displaying aggregated data is aggregated at a different level from
3 the remaining portions of that dimension.

1 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein selected elements of a hierarchical
2 dimension are hidden from the display.

1 9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the displayed graph is organized in three
2 dimensions, with two dimensions forming a floor of a display, and both being
3 organized as hierarchies.

1 10. The method of Claim 9, wherein data is displayed in the third dimension.

2 11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the data is organized as a hierarchy,
3 and wherein the data is displayed as a selected hierarchy level.

4 12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

5 receiving from the user input selecting a hierarchy level for displaying the
6 data; and

7 displaying the data at the user selected level.